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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/550,043	09/26/2006	Fritz Krause	85934.000055	8089

23387 7590 04/01/2009  
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EXAMINER
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REDMAN, JERRY E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3634

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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04/01/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/550,043	<b>Applicant(s)</b> KRAUSE, FRITZ	
	<b>Examiner</b> Jerry Redman	<b>Art Unit</b> 3634	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 September 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/21/2005</u> .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

It appears that the applicant is trying to claim foreign priority but has yet to do so.

The applicant's information disclosure statement dated 9/21/2005 has been considered and a copy has been placed in the file.

Claim 8 is objected to because the phraseology "preferably" is indefinite and fails to positively recite the claimed invention.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3-8, and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Mesnel (4,470,223). As shown in Figures 3-6, Mesnel (4,470,223) discloses an elastomeric weather seal comprising two U-shaped reinforced mounting elements attached to a door frame, hollow sealing lips (shown in figure 6 but replaceable with any of the sealing lips in the embodiments, column 2, lines 37-38), flocking on the hollow sealing lips, flocking on a bottom portion forming the channel for guiding a window pane, retaining lips projecting from the U-shaped reinforced mounting elements.

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The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mesnel ('223) in view of Herr (3,333,364). All of the elements of the instant invention are discussed in detail above except providing a hollow seal along a bottom/base portion. Herr ('364) discloses a weather seal having a base portion (2) with a hollow portion (33). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the weather seal of Mesnel ('223) with a hollow sealing portion along the bottom/base portion as taught by Herr ('364) since the bottom portion having a hollow sealing element enhances the sealing characteristics of the weather seal thereby improving the seal between the window pane and the door frame.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mesnel ('223) in view of Patent application publication no. 2003/0019160 to Oda et al. All of the elements of the instant invention are discussed in detail above except providing a hollow sealing element divided by a web. Patent application publication no. 2003/0019160 to Oda et al. disclose a weather strip having a hollow sealing element (30) having a web projecting from a U-shaped mount of a weather strip. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the weather strip of Mesnel ('223) with a hollow seal with a web as taught by Patent application publication no. 2003/0019160 to Oda et al. since a hollow seal portion

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having a web increases the sealing characteristics between the weather strip and the frame since the hollow portion allows flexibility and the web provides rigidity to the hollow portion.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Several patents have been cited which disclose sealing characteristics similar to that of the applicant's invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerry Redman whose telephone number is 571-272-6835. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH from 8 to 6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ms. Mitchell, can be reached on 571-272-7069. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Jerry Redman  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3634

/Jerry Redman/  
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